

**IN THE UNITED STATES ELECTED/DESIGNATED OFFICE  
OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**

Applicant(s): Jorg Heuer et al.  
Intl. Appl. No.: PCT/DE2003/002274  
Intl. Filing Date: July 7, 2003  
Title: METHOD AND DEVICES FOR ENCODING/DECODING  
STRUCTURED DOCUMENTS, PARTICULARLY XML  
DOCUMENTS  
Docket No.: 0112740-1052

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified International Application before entry into the National stage before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office under 35 U.S.C. §371 as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 29 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 36 of this paper.